

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

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Reverence the highest, have patience with the lowest.—Margaret Fuller.

THE WHIPPING POST?

When men of the churches turn to the whipping post as a solution for an evil confronting the community, it is time for serious consideration of the subject. The ordinary mind recoils with horror from the idea of laying the lash on the back of a human being in order to enforce the law, but it may be that the crime demands the punishment. At any rate, Honolulu is now called upon to face the question.

This question is not the question of the feelings of the man as he is whipped, nor is it primarily the permanent effect of the whipping on the individual criminal. The thought of using an instrument of physical pain on the bare back of a man is hideous, but so is the thought of shutting a man away from the free air and the blessed sunshine and the great balm of nature; so is the thought of violently wrenching life from its earthly abode and sending the soul of a trembling wretch to face the terrors of the unknown. And yet society has borne these hideous thoughts because they constitute a warning "Thou Shalt Not!" Society has been willing to bear these thoughts and inflict these punishments on offenders as example to deter other possible offenders.

The question of the whipping-post is not the question of the man who is punished. One hears talk indulged in of "degrading the feelings" of the man who is whipped. That kind of talk is sentimental rot. It is mushy and hypocritical moralizing. The man who commits one of these awful crimes has no feelings to degrade. He is either mentally weak or a brute. He is either a degenerate or a beast.

The real question of a whipping-post is the question of its moral effect on the community—first, its effect on possible offenders; secondly, its effect on the great majority of clean-minded and sensitive-minded citizens. Will the establishment of the whipping post brutalize the community? Will its psychological effect be to blunt the finer sensibilities of the mind? And, even if so, will its undoubted power to check beastly crime outweigh the callousing of the public heart?

It is impossible to say now whether or not the whipping-post is wise, for the very reception of the idea on the part of the community is going to determine its wisdom. But a discussion of this method of stopping inordinate crimes of the person will settle the question, and the discussion ought to be free and frank.

THINK OVER THE RECALL

Professor W. A. Bryan of the College of Hawaii advanced some very excellent ideas on the commission or short-ballot form of government in a thoughtful address before the Church Club the other night, but on one point at least the Star-Bulletin takes very decided issue with him. That point is the recall.

Under the plan proposed by Mr. Bryan, a twenty-five per centum signature of the voters would make a recall petition effective. In other words, twenty-five per cent. of the voters could demand a recall election for any elective officer of the municipal government.

The wisdom of the recall is a little doubtful here in Honolulu at the beginning of the new form of government, if it is begun. The greatest difficulty that the city will have to contend with is to get capable men, responsible men, men of known character and proved ability in large affairs, to come forward as candidates for commissioners or supervisors or whatever their title may be under the short-ballot system. There will be no advancement in civic efficiency if professional politicians are to run the city, for professional politicians will wreck a short-ballot form of government as quickly as and even more thoroughly than they do the ordinary municipal system.

There is not a capable man in Honolulu who will put himself at the mercy of a recall movement that can be made effective by twenty-five per cent of the voters—not, certainly, the kind of capable men that the city needs in its administration. One of the weaknesses generally recognized as a Honolulu characteristic is that of overdoing public movements in an excess of zeal. The burning of a section of the city years ago is typical of many less obvious and less purely physical phenomena since then. And this com-

munity characteristic makes the voters of Honolulu easily fired of one set of officers and quite ready to stir up public sentiment, turn out the office-holders and install a new set. One should think what would have happened to the present board of supervisors under a recall plan where twenty-five per cent of the voters could bring about a special election. "Off with the old and on with the new" is the spirit to fear.

As a matter of fact, the recall for short-term officers is not always an effective measure even when the officers are unworthy. Suppose a commissioner is elected for two years under Mr. Bryan's recall plan. The recall petition could be made effective after a six months' tenure of office. The recall election and the special election to fill the office would consume three or four months more, and the new commissioner, if elected, would go into office with but a year to serve. This argument, it is true, does not hold in the case of a long-term official, but there seems much doubt as to whether the legislature will grant a new charter that will give four-year terms to supervisors or commissioners.

The Star-Bulletin believes, as it has stated once before, when the subject was first broached, that if any recall plan is adopted, the percentage of voters necessary to make a recall petition effective should be so large as to leave absolutely no doubt that something near a majority of the voters feel that an official is too unworthy to hold office. That percentage should be somewhere around fifty per cent. In particular, while Honolulu is struggling to rid her government absolutely of the politician-for-revenue-only, there should be no discouragement put in the way of men to come forward and offer their services on a non-political basis. An easy way of getting a recall is going to prove a hard way of getting worthy candidates.

WIRELESS ADVANCE

The world grows smaller day by day. Last night announcements were sent out from the San Francisco office of the Federal Telegraph company that the Poulsen wireless system had successfully spanned the 5,000 miles between Honolulu and Washington, D. C., the local station at Kaneohe talking with the big station at Arlington. It has been but a few weeks since the Poulsen system established sure day communication between Honolulu and San Francisco, and only a few months before that, the same company began its present efficient night communication.

Wonders in trans-ocean communication are achieved every day and the average man or woman knows and thinks little of it. It is not too much to predict that within a year there will be permanent day communication by wireless between Honolulu and the capital for the interchange of commercial and press messages. Honolulu is less isolated from the world every day. Strictly speaking, this city is 2,100 miles from San Francisco, but for most practical purposes, the Golden Gate City is not as far as the ocean horizon.

ONE THAT HAWAII CAN ILL AFFORD TO LOSE

News of the promotion of Rear-admiral Walter C. Cowles to the command of the Pacific fleet, and his consequent departure from Honolulu, will be received by his many friends here with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret. Congratulations are in order over the fact that Admiral Cowles will be able to fly his flag afloat, but his going can not be other than a distinct loss to the important naval construction work that is now in progress on Oahu.

Admiral Cowles has had supervision over the Pearl Harbor work almost since its inception. When he came here nothing but channel dredging had been started, and he has seen the new naval base grow and flourish. He is in touch with every detail, and his pronounced administrative ability has caused the navy department to grant him wide discretionary powers here. His departure is a real loss to Hawaii.

The House ways and means committee announces action on the sugar tariff for January 15. This little statement need not worry anyone in Hawaii. The present session of Congress will merely play a little tariff politics for the benefit of the next session. Were there any likelihood whatever that the present Congress would revise any important tariff schedule, President-elect Wilson would have remained quiet on the question of an extra session.

LETTERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

INDEPENDENCE OF THE SOLDIERS.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir:—I beg that you find space in your valued publication to print this statement:

I am not a soldier; nor have I been, but I believe that it is the duty of every real American in these islands to take the part of our soldiers when attacked by those that are what best suits to the occasion.

The statements made by one of our pedagogues, that the girls were afraid to leave the school for fear of being mistreated at the hands of our soldiers is undoubtedly, an untruthful statement, for I am sure that the police records do not show that soldiers were ever convicted for a crime against any of the girls of the Kamehameha school and no reports have been made to the commanding officer at Fort Shafter.

To the people of Honolulu I would like to say, that to a man the officers of the American army are against such hideous crime, and will not

shield a soldier so charged. Army officers are as a rule from good families and have been trained in one of the best schools in the world, and are admitted to the best society.

More girls are ruined through the criminal carelessness of their own parents and guardians than through any other cause. If some of our teachers could broaden-out a little and come out with a lesson to parents on the care of young girls they might help the cause a little. I have seen young girls that should be at home looking about Oriental ice cream parlors and coffee shops for hours, and when you have been through the Orient and know these people you can know the risk they take. I would no more allow a child of mine to loiter about these damning resorts than I would allow it to loiter about the tangle-land district.

Now let our learned gentlemen that are trying to make a reputation for themselves do so, but not at the expense of the American people or the soldiers.

Very respectfully,
A REAL AMERICAN.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

ALEXANDER YOUNG — Speaking of Mr. Sheehan finding quartz on this island, isn't the fact that at certain positions at sea ships cannot "get" Kahuku by wireless an indication of metallic attraction playing hooky with the traveling electric wave?

W. R. FARRINGTON — Woodrow Wilson in his History of the American People quotes George Washington as saying, "Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair. The event is in the hands of God." Seems to me that makes a pretty good text for the men who are striving for municipal efficiency. We might also add, if our own people do not raise the standard and make good someone else will.

H. P. WOOD — The meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to which our chamber has appointed Judge Ballou, W. F. Dillingham and E. E. Paxton as delegates, is likely to be one of the most important business conventions ever held in the United States. It will no doubt take up the tariff and other national questions of great importance. This national chamber is going to be a very strong organization, and the meeting in January will be the first one held since it was formed.

PERSONALITIES

CAPT. PARKER, of Kahului, is in the city.

ROBT. HIND, from Kona, is a visitor to Honolulu.

MRS. RENJES is expected home from Germany about Christmas.

GUSTAVE BECKER, hotel proprietor at Waiohinu at Kau, is here on a business visit.

DR. AND MRS. ROBINSON will shortly leave for their home in Los Angeles. They recently returned from the volcano.

C. H. Brown, of scrap-iron fame, was taken to the Queen's Hospital yesterday and it is thought he may have to undergo an operation.

GEORGE P. DENISON, superintendent of the Oahu railway, who for some time past has been loaned to the Hilo Railroad Company to direct its extension work, is in town.

ONOMEA AND PIONEER CUT THEIR DIVIDENDS

Onomea is the second sugar company to cut its dividend for next year. Nobody thinks it will be the last. The Onomea Sugar Company directors have decided to reduce the dividend from forty cents to thirty cents a share, beginning on the fifth of January. The difference is that between 24 per cent and 18 per cent per annum, or one-half of one per cent per month, on the capital stock of \$1,500,000. "Conditions make it necessary," said E. Fax, on Bishop, president of C. Brewer & Co., agents of Onomea, yesterday afternoon. "I don't think anybody can kick at the amount of reduction." In point of fact the cut is less than was expected along the street. Although not made public here tofore, Pioneer Mill Co. was the first to reduce its dividend for the ensuing year. Its directors decided about a week ago to make the dividend 20 cents a month instead of 30 cents. This is a reduction from 18 per cent to 12 per cent per annum on the par value of the stock.

WINDOW SHOW AT BOOKSHOP

The Crossroads Bookshop is going to have a grand window display this week, decorations for it having come straight from Chicago. Mr. Banta is the designer of the show and has been working on it for several weeks.

Any schedule for Christmas buying that does not include books reflects scant intelligence on its maker. When books can be had combining elegance with literary interest, and withal at right prices, there is no excuse for neglect of holiday buyers in overlooking this always appropriate class of gifts.

John D. McGrew, vice president and manager of the company, said this morning: "Business is better than last year, although they say that was a bumper season. Our big feature is the illustrated books."

"Recent fiction at 65 cents and Everybody's Library are leaders in the cheaper lines. Then there are the classics in small attractive binding in limp leather, and the A. & C. Black's travel books issued in London."

For Sale

MANOA—Residence lot 22,500 sq. ft. \$2250
NUUANU—40,000 sq. feet in the upper, cool part of the valley \$1750
OCEAN VIEW—Modern Home with all conveniences \$8500
ANAPUNI ST.—Modern 1 1/2 story house \$4500
New Bungalow \$4850
YOUNG ST.—Residence lot, 12381 sq. ft. \$2,000
PAWAA—Modern 1 1/2 story house \$4500
AULD LANE—3-Bedroom House and lot \$1750
PACIFIC HEIGHTS—Choice Home \$8000
COLLEGE STREET—3 Bedroom House and 2-Bedroom Cottage \$6,000
OCEAN VIEW—Several choice lots, also acreage—cheap

GUARDIAN TRUST CO., Ltd.,
SECOND FLOOR, JUDD BUILDING

THE GIFT OF G

History in all ages bears witness that jewelry is "the gift of gifts".

The humble savage found the same gratification in a necklace of glass beads as the Queen of Sheba in one of exquisite pearls.

This modern age affords articles of personal adornment more beautiful than the ancients ever dreamed of. For the Christmas Holidays this store is radiant with its display of choice, exquisite gems and articles of gold and silver jewelry, cut glass, etc., etc.



WICHMAN & CO.,
Leading Jewelers

When a young widow faces the parlor for the second time she is apt to his wife wants him to do it no sign balk at the "honor and obey" clause, that he's stuck on the position.

HOUSES FOR RENT

FURNISHED	UNFURNISHED
Tantalus\$ 40.00	Pua Lane\$ 17.00
Kaimuki 45.00	Waipio 12.00
Kahala Beach..... 50.00	Wilder Avenue .. 25.00
Nuanu Avenue .. 80.00	Kaimuki 30.00
Pacific Heights .. 100.00	Ala Moana and
College Hills 75.00	Ena Roads 50.00
Wahiawa 30.00	College Hills .. 50.00
	Kalihi \$6.00, 15.00
	Pawaa Lane 18.00
	Puunui Avenue ... 30.00

Trent Trust Co.,

Limited

Christmas : Suggestions

Mesh Bags

In the very latest designs. An assortment worth while seeing.

Toilet Ware

The daintiest designs on the new, thin model. Each piece a beauty.

Shaving Sets

Most useful and something ladies usually look for. Large assortment.

Table Ware

We can show you some of the most attractive patterns.

Novelties

These comprise Pin Cushions, Writing Pieces, Vanity Cases, Sewing Pieces, Etc.

GOODS AND PRICES WILL BEAR COMPARISON.



VIEIRA JEWELRY CO.,
LIMITED
113 Hotel Street

Eggs Cost You 75c A Dozen

UNLESS YOU RAISE YOUR OWN CHICKENS.

You old kamaiolas, who have lived in Honolulu for years, will remember the box of fresh eggs at Nolte's. This box of fresh eggs is from the Bellina ranch. Thirty minutes from the center of the city, we have a few acres left adjoining the Bellina ranch, suitable in every way for raising chickens. Surplus eggs are just like money in the bank. A very small cash payment will pay for one of these acre-lots. If you are in doubt or if you are skeptical in regard to the chicken-raising business in this locality, interview Mr. Williamson of 6th Avenue. In addition to this acre property, we have the following residence property:

We have property for sale in this district as follows:
House and two lots, Palolo Hill\$3500.00
House and two lots, Wilhelmina Rise\$2500.00
House and lot, Park Ave., Kaimuki\$2500.00
House and lot, Sixth Ave., Kaimuki\$2700.00
3 lots, cor. Kaimuki and Eighteenth Ave.\$1450.00
Claudine Ave. lots\$ 400.00
Lot on Palolo Hillside\$ 550.00
1450 Kewalo St.\$6000.00

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co.,
Limited,

CORNER FORT AND MERCHANT STREETS